

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 11, 12, and 16 through 19, and add Claims 20 through 22 to read as follows:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An observation optical apparatus ~~including~~  
employed for observing an object, said apparatus comprising:

an erecting optical ~~system;~~ system;

a front optical system arranged on the light incidence side of the erecting  
optical ~~system;~~ system; and

a rear optical system arranged on the light emission side of ~~the~~ said erecting  
optical ~~system;~~ system; ~~said apparatus allowing observation of an image employing the erecting~~  
~~optical system, the front optical system, and the rear optical system, said apparatus comprising:~~

a sensor for detecting a shake of said apparatus; and

a correction optical system for ~~correcting a shake of the image due to the~~  
suppressing a shake of said apparatus an image of the object, the image being created by said  
front optical system, said erecting optical system, and said rear optical system, the suppression  
being in accordance with an output from said sensor,

wherein ~~the~~ said front optical system includes a plurality of lens elements, and  
~~the~~ said rear optical system includes a plurality of lens elements, and

wherein the number of the lens elements of ~~the~~ said rear optical system is greater than that of the lens elements of ~~the~~ said front optical system.

12. (Currently Amended) An observation optical apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said correction optical system includes a shake correction optical element, and ~~the~~ said front optical system includes ~~the~~ said shake correction optical ~~system~~ element.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) An observation optical apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein each of ~~the~~ said front optical system and ~~the~~ said rear optical system comprises a composite lens.

17. (Currently Amended) An observation optical apparatus ~~including~~  
employed for observing an object, said apparatus comprising:

an erecting optical ~~system;~~ system;

a front optical system arranged on the light incidence side of ~~the~~ said erecting  
optical system; ~~system, and~~

a rear optical system arranged on the light emission side of ~~the~~ said erecting  
optical ~~system;~~ system;

~~said apparatus allowing observation of an image through the erecting optical system, the front optical system, and the rear optical system, said apparatus comprising:~~

a sensor, arranged in a body of said apparatus, for detecting a shake of said apparatus;

a correction optical system for suppressing a shake of an image of the object, the image being created by said front optical system, said erecting optical system, and said rear optical system; ~~a control circuit electrically connected to said sensor, for receiving an output from said sensor;~~

an actuator for driving said correction optical system; and

a control circuit electrically connected to said sensor and control circuit, the driving of said actuator, which controls said actuator being controlled in accordance with an output from said sensor, control circuit, responsive to an output from said sensor; and

~~a shake correction optical element connected to said actuator;~~

wherein ~~the~~ said front optical system includes a plurality of lens elements, and ~~the~~ said rear optical system includes a plurality of lens elements, and

wherein the number of the lens elements of ~~the~~ said rear optical system is greater than that of the lens elements of ~~the~~ said front optical system.

18. (Currently Amended) An observation optical ~~system~~ apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ said correction optical system includes a shake correction optical element, and said front optical system includes said shake correction optical element.

19. (Currently Amended) An observation optical apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein each of ~~the~~ said front optical system and ~~the~~ said rear optical system comprises a composite lens.

20. (New) An observation optical apparatus employed for observing an object, said apparatus comprising:

a front optical system having a plurality of optical elements, said front optical system being arranged on the light incidence side of an erecting optical system;

a rear optical system having a plurality of optical elements, said rear optical system being arranged on the light emission side of the erecting optical system; and

a sensor for detecting a shake of said apparatus,

wherein the closest one to the erecting optical system, among said plurality of optical elements of said front optical system, suppresses a shake of an image of the object, the image being created by said front optical system, the erecting optical system, and said rear optical system, the suppression being in accordance with an output from said sensor, and

wherein the number of the optical elements of said rear optical system is greater than that of the optical elements of said front optical system.

21. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein the closest one to the erecting optical system, among said plurality of optical elements of said front optical system, has two rotational axes.

22. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein the closest one to the erecting optical system, among said plurality of optical elements of said front optical system, is a variable angle prism.